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whole human race is from a single couple, and that such is the legitimate construction of the biblical passages mentioning Adam and Eve, did not appear to him to be a question in Natural History; that is, he conceives it to be impossible, from any natural evidence now existing upon the surface of the earth, either to prove or disprove this proposition, or to render it more probable or improbable, and that it must, therefore, rest for its certainty upon revelation, records, and the grammatical construction and just verbal meaning of an ancient language.

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*November 23d.*

The President, Mr. ORD, in the Chair.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Acad. C. L. C. Naturæ Curiosorum, dated Breslau, 28th Aug. 1852, presenting the volume of its Transactions acknowledged this evening.

Dr. Leidy prevented a paper from M. Tuomey, entitled "Description of some fossil shells from the Tertiary of the Southern States," which, being intended for publication, was referred to a committee, consisting of Dr. Leidy, Mr. Conrad, and Mr. Charles E. Smith.

Dr. Woodhouse presented a paper for publication, describing a new species of *Numenius*; which was referred to Mr. Cassin, Dr. Wilson and Dr. Heermann.

Dr. Owen presented for inspection by the members, a copy of his Report of the Geological Survey of Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota, and called attention to some of the illustrations, which were produced by an entirely new method; the copy of the fossil being *medal-ruled* on the steel plate from the object itself.

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*November 30th.*

Mr. ORD, President, in the Chair.

The Committee on Mr. Tuomey's paper, offered at last meeting, reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings.

*Description of some Fossil Shells from the Tertiary of the Southern States.*

By M. TUOMEY, Prof. of Geology, Univ. of Alabama.

The fossils described in this paper are from a well known locality at Wilmington, N. C. The bed in which they were found is a coarse calcareous conglomerate resembling, in mineral composition, the compact white limestone of the Santee.

Sir Charles Lyell described this structure in the first volume of the Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London, and referred it to the Eocene. In a report on the geology of South Carolina I pointed out the existence of one or two cretaceous forms—*Ammonites placenta*, Morton, and a *Trigonia* related to *T. thoracica*, Morton, in the same bed, together with Eocene fossils.

Some of the fossils described are much larger than any occurring in the Eocene, yet as a group, no one acquainted with our cretaceous and Eocene fossils could hesitate in referring them to the latter. Besides, Sir Charles Lyell has given a list, from this locality, of several species found elsewhere in the Eocene.